



## BARNES & THORNBURG

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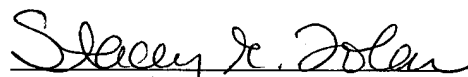
### PATENT APPLICATION IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Customer No.: 23641  
Application No.: 10/659990  
Confirmation No.: 4651  
Filing Date: September 11, 2003  
Group Art Unit: 3616  
Examiner Name: Unknown  
Attorney Docket No.: 262600/82641  
First Named Inventor: Seiy, Michael M  
Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR AUTOMATICALLY LEVELING AN OBJECT

#### Certificate Under 37 CFR 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

on December 22, 2003

  
Stacey E. Tolar

## TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)


### ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form      | <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request                                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement (21 cited references) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Response        | <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> After Final               | <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request |  |

- ☐ Drawing(s)
- ☐ Licensing-related Papers
- ☐ Petition
- ☐ Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application
- ☐ Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address
- ☐ Terminal Disclaimer
- ☐ Request for Refund
- ☐ CD, Number of CD(s) \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ After Allowance Communication to Group

- ☐ Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
- ☐ Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
- ☐ Proprietary Information
- ☐ Status Letter
- ☒ Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
  - (a) Copy of 4 non-patent cited references \_\_\_\_\_
  - (b) Receipt Postcard \_\_\_\_\_
  - (c) \_\_\_\_\_
  - (d) \_\_\_\_\_

Remarks:

  
 Gregory S. Cooper  
 Reg. No. 40,965  
 (260) 423-9440

Date: December 22, 2003



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Examiner

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Stacey E. Tolar

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner of Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the  
Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached form. It  
is respectfully requested that the references be expressly considered during the prosecution of  
this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the

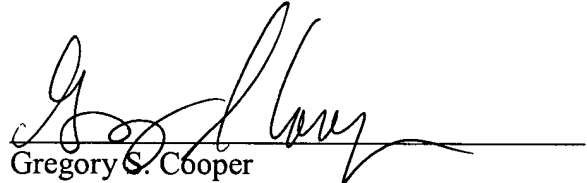
"References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom. Copies of all cited foreign patents and non-patent documents, if any, are provided herewith for the Examiner's review.

No representation is intended that a complete search has been made of the prior art, or that prior art references other than those listed on the attached form are not available. The citation of these references shall not be construed to be an admission that the information cited in the statement is considered material to patentability of the subject invention.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the U.S. filing date OR before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No certification or fee is required.

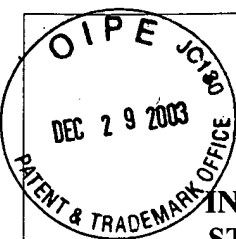
Please charge any fees that might be due in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement to Barnes & Thornburg Deposit Account No. 02-1010 (262600/82641).

Respectfully submitted,



Gregory S. Cooper  
Reg. No. 40,965  
(260) 423-9440

Date: December 22, 2003



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Sheet 1 of 3

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/659990
Filing Date	September 11, 2003
First Named Inventor	Seiy, Michael M.
Group Art Unit	3616
Examiner Name	Unknown
Attorney Docket Number	262600/82641

A

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

*Examiner Initials	Cite No. 1	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
	A.1	3,857,582	12-31-1974	Hartog	
	A.2	4,061,309	12-06-1977	Hanser	
	A.3	4,103,869	08-01-1978	Mesny, et al.	
	A.4	4,142,710	03-06-1979	Okuda	
	A.5	4,165,861	08-28-1979	Hanser	
	A.6	4,597,584	07-01-1986	Hanser	
	A.7	4,743,037	04-10-1988	Hanser	
	A.8	4,746,133	05-24-1988	Hanser, et al.	
	A.9	4,815,757	03-28-1989	Hamilton	
	A.10	4,913,458	04-03-1990	Hamilton	
	A.11	5,188,379	02-23-1993	Krause, et al.	
	A.12	5,237,782	08-24-1993	Cooper	
	A.13	5,312,119	05-17-1994	Schneider, et al.	
	A.14	5,580,095	12-03-1996	Fukumoto	
	A.15	5,833,296	11-10-1998	Schneider	
	A.16	6,050,573	04-18-2000	Kunz	
	A.17	6,200,806 B1	03-13-2001	Thomson	
	A.18				
	A.19				
	A.20				
	A.21				
	A.22				

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

\*EXAMINER: Initial reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
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(Use several sheets if necessary)

Sheet 2 of 3

Application Number	10/659990
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Examiner Name	Unknown
Attorney Docket Number	262600/82641

B

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
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STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

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Sheet 3 of 3

C

**OTHER PRIOR ART -- NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>
	C.1	Advertisement; "Straight Truck Hydraulic Lift Systems" by Equalizer Systems.	
	C.2	Advertisement; "Hydraulic Lift Systems Single Leg AM Series Systems for Fifth Wheel, Gooseneck and Towable Trailers" by Equalizer Systems.	
	C.3	Advertisement; "Equalizer El-Pac Power Lifting System" by Equalizer System.	
	C.4	Advertisement; "Single and Dual Leg CM Series Systems for Fifth Wheel, Gooseneck and Low Boy Trailers" by Equalizer Systems.	
	C.5		
	C.6		
	C.7		
	C.8		
	C.9		
	C.10		

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